

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 301382

53

ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02

PRS-01 /025 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/PAF:KLMARSHALL:STT

APPROVED BY ARA:HARYAN

ARA/MEX:JTDREYFUSS (INFO)

RA/PAN:RRWYROUGH (INFO)

ARA/EP:FBCORRY (INFO)

RA/BC:RDRISCOLL (INFO)

ARA/NC:TWSONANDRES (INFO)

RA/BR:RWZIMMERMANN (INFO)

----- 008143

P 231636Z DEC 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

INFO USIA

DOD OSD/PA PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 301382

OSD/PA FOR COL HARRY QUINLAN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: ORIENTATION VISIT OF NATIONAL COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

-- OF VFW, THOMAS C. "PETE" WALKER, JANUARY 4 TO

-- JANUARY 18

1. NATIONAL COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN  
WARS, THOMAS C. "PETE" WALKER, WILL VISIT ADDRESSEE POSTS

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 301382

BETWEEN JANUARY 4 AND JANUARY 18. HE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED

BY THE VFW'S DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS, LTC (RETIRED)  
T.H. MARLOW. PURPOSE OF THIS TRAVEL IN CENTRAL AND SOUTH  
AMERICA--WHICH IS THE FIRST FOR ANY VFW OFFICIAL AS WELL AS  
FOR BOTH MEN PERSONALLY--IS TO OBTAIN FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND  
DEFENSE ORIENTATION TO THE REGION.

2. WALKER AND MARLOW CREDIT DEPARTMENT OFFICERS WITH  
HAVING CONVINCED THEM, A FEW MONTHS BACK, THAT CENTRAL AND  
SOUTH AMERICA MERITED CLOSER ATTENTION FROM THE VFW.  
ACCORDINGLY, THEY DECIDED TO FOREGO TRADITIONAL VISIT OF  
VFW COMMANDER TO FAR EAST IN FAVOR OF THIS ONE TO 6 LATIN  
AMERICAN COUNTRIES. THEY REQUESTED ADVANCE BRIEFINGS IN  
THE DEPARTMENT AND PROVIDED COMPLETE ITINERARY BELOW AS  
BASIS FOR SCHEDULING OF ADDITIONAL ORIENTATION IN THE  
FIELD. EXCEPT FOR THE EVENING OF JANUARY 7, TIME SHOWN IN  
COUNTRY IS WHOLLY AT POST'S DISPOSAL FOR SCHEDULING.

3. DEPARTMENT REGARDS WALKER/MARLOW TRIP TO LATIN AMERICA  
AS HIGHLY IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY FOR GENERATING INFORMED  
INTEREST ON THE PART OF NATIONAL LEADERSHIP OF AN ORGANI-  
ZATION WITH LARGE AND POWERFUL U.S. CONSTITUENCY.  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS AND AMBASSADOR ELLSWORTH BUNKER  
MET WITH WALKER AND MARLOW, AND THE APPROPRIATE ARA  
COUNTRY DIRECTORS PROVIDED ONE-HOUR BRIEFINGS IN THE  
DEPARTMENT DECEMBER 17 AND 18. RECOMMEND POSTS SCHEDULE  
FOLLOW UP EMBASSY BRIEFINGS, OPPORTUNITIES TO MEET WITH  
(ENGLISH-SPEAKING)HOST COUNTRY OFFICIALS OR OTHER NATION-  
ALS OF STATURE AND EXPOSURE TO VISIBLE EVIDENCES OF  
DYNAMISM IN HOST COUNTRY SOCIETY. PLEASE INFORM DEPART-  
MENT SOONEST WHO CONTROL OFFICER WILL BE, HOW CONTACT WILL  
BE MADE, AND SOME IDEA OF PROGRAM BEING SET UP.

4. BIO DATA, NATIONAL COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, VETERANS OF  
FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES. THOMAS C. "PETE"  
WALKER, A NATIVE AND RESIDENT OF NEW LONDON, CONN., WAS  
ELECTED COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF AT THE VFW'S 76TH NATIONAL  
CONVENTION IN AUGUST 1975. A VETERAN OF WORLD WAR II AND  
THE KOREAN WAR, HE ENLISTED IN THE CONNECTICUT NATIONAL  
GUARD IN 1940, WENT THROUGH OCS AT FORT BENNING, LATER  
TRAINED AS A PILOT AND SERVED AS ARMY AIR CORPS FIGHTER  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 301382

PILOT IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC. MR. WALKER IS A LIFETIME  
MEMBER AND HAS HELD NUMEROUS CONNECTICUT AND NATIONAL  
POSTS IN THE VFW. IN NEW LONDON HE HAS BEEN AN ACTIVE  
MEMBER AND OFFICER IN THE BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER  
OF THE ELKS AND THE ALLEN HOOK AND LADDER VOLUNTEER FIRE  
DEPARTMENT AND HAS SERVED AS VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE SELECTIVE  
SERVICE BOARD. A SPORTS-MINDED PERSON, MR. WALKER FOR  
MANY YEARS HAS BEEN A BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL OFFICIAL IN

LOCAL LEAGUES AND HAS SERVED AS PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS OF BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL UMPIRES. IN PRIVATE LIFE MR. WALKER IS A SAFETY COMPLIANCE OFFICER FOR PFIZER INC. (PHARMACEUTICALS). HE IS A WIDOWER WITH ONE DAUGHTER, MRS. DONALD DYER, OF POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK.

5. WALKER/MARLOW ITINERARY:

SATURDAY, JANUARY 3:

LV NEW LONDON 7:00 PM PILGRAM 227

ARR NEW YORK (JFK) 7:45 PM

HOTEL RESERVATION - HOLIDAY INN-KENNEDY AIRPORT

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4:

LV NEW YORK (JFK) 9:30 AM EASTERN 901

ARR MEXICO CITY 1:34 PM

HOTEL - SHERATON-MARIA ISABEL

; UNCLASSIFIED

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6:

LV MEXICO CITY 2:45 PM PAN AM 501

ARR GUATEMALA CITY 4:20 PM

LV GUATEMALA CITY 5:50 PM PAN AM 515

ARR PANAMA CITY 8:50 PM

HOTEL - HOLIDAY INN-OCEAN FRONT

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9:

LV PANAMC CITY 8:40 PM BRANIFF 977

ARR LIMA 11:43 PM HOTEL-SHERATON-LIMA

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11:

LV LIMA 1:15 PM AVIANCA 81

ARR SANTIAGO 6:30 PM

HOTEL - SHERATON-CARRERA

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 301382

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13:

LV SANTIAGO 2:40 PM VARIG 631

ARR RIO DE JANEIRO 9:10 PM

GALEAU AIRPORT

HOTEL - SHERATON-RIO

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15:

LV RIO DE JANEIRO 1:30 PM VIASA 795

ARR CARACAS 6:35 PM

HOTEL - HOLIDAY INN

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18:

LV CARACAS 9:30 AM PAN AM 218

ARR NEW YORK (JFK) 1:15 PM

LV NEW YORK (JFK) 4:30 PM PILGRAM 162  
ARR NEW LONDON 5:40 PM

END ITINERARY KISSINGER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ITINERARY, PERSONNEL TRAVEL  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 DEC 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE301382  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** KLMARSHALL:STT  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750445-0718  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19751218/aaaaapne.tel  
**Line Count:** 173  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN ARA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ElyME  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <23 JUN 2003 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <02 FEB 2004 by ElyME>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ORIENTATION VISIT OF NATIONAL COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF -- OF VFW, THOMAS C. "PETE" WALKER, JANUARY 4 TO  
**TAGS:** PFOR, OTRA, MX, VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS, (WALKER, THOMAS C)  
**To:** MEXICO MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006